

REMARKS

A. Status of Claims

Claims 1-5 are pending in the application.

B. Summary Of Office Action

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0162019 A1 to Berry et al. ("Berry") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,495,533 to Linehan et al. ("Linehan"). The Examiner has rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berry and Linehan, and further in view of United States Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0016910 A1 to Wright et al. ("Wright").

C. Response

The Applicant requests the Examiner's consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, transmitted herewith.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejections and requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks.

None of the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, disclose, teach or suggest all of the elements of claims 1 through 5. At a minimum, none of the references disclose step (d) of claim 1 and the corresponding element of system claim 5, namely, "upon said first user transmitting the label to a second user via a messaging system, automatically updating an access control list with at least one of (i) a public key of the second user and information related to the label and (ii) information that allows retrieval of a public key of the second user and information related to the label".

Although Berry references an access control list, this reference relates to the permission chain of Berry being rooted in an access control list, which is consulted when the claimant uses the permission to seek access to the resource. Berry does not disclose what step (d) of claim 1 and the corresponding element of system claim 5 require, which is automatic modification of the access control list upon message transmission. Indeed, in Berry it is not generally possible to update the access control list because when sending^{because} a message the Berry technique is aimed at offline delegation.

The Examiner states that “Linehan discloses the automatic update of a key database when the permissions or access information changes The key database performs the function of an access control list in defining who can use the file” Like Berry, Linehan does not disclose modification of the access control list in the course of sending a message as required by the pending claims.

The present invention provides for the integration of messaging systems and access control systems for public keys, which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited prior art.

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The Examiner states that “Linehan discloses the automatic update of a key database when the permissions or access information changes The key database performs the function of an access control list in defining who can use the file” Like Berry, Linehan does not disclose modification of the access control list in the course of sending a message as required by the pending claims.


The present invention provides for the integration of messaging systems and access control systems for public keys, which is neither taught nor suggested by the cited prior art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the pending rejections and the timely allowance of the pending claims. If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-739-5705 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kent Basson", is written over a horizontal line.

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